

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently amended) A stand-up plastic bag, comprising:
 - (a) an opposed front wall and rear wall, each wall having an upper and lower edge and longitudinal edges, such that the walls define a bag opening at upper edges thereof with the opening extending along the upper edges and substantially the entire distance between the longitudinal edges;
 - (b) a pair of gusseted sides disposed between the opposed front and rear walls ~~and running along the longitudinal edges, wherein the sides have no dimension at a point adjacent to the upper edges of the front and rear wall, and transition to a lower portion having a distance separating the front and rear walls~~ gussets are located on a lower portion of the sides;
 - (c) a flat bottom portion adjacent a lower portion of the front and rear walls and the sides, the bottom portion formed by a seal bonding a central portion of the front and rear walls to one another, and creating a folded-in seal on edges extending outward from the central portion, the folded-in seal creating gussets in the lower portion of the sides, allowing the ~~the~~ front and rear walls, and the sides to be configured such that the bag conforms to a stand-up bag orientation;
 - (d) the front and rear walls, the sides, and the bottom portion define an interior volume of the bag; and
 - (e) a reclosable device located proximate the bag opening, ~~such that no gussets are required on the upper portion of the bag,~~ wherein the bag opening may be selectively opened and closed.
2. (Original) The stand-up bag of claim 1, wherein said front, rear and sides and said bottom portion are composed of a multi-layered film of thermoplastic material.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently amended) The stand-up bag of claim 1, wherein said front and rear walls ~~have opposite longitudinal edges joined together by an elongate seal made at a contiguous portion thereof~~ further have an additional top seal joining an upper portion of the front and rear walls at a location above the reclosable device.

5. (Original) The stand-up bag of claim 1, wherein the reclosable device is a zipper lock.

6. (Original) The stand-up bag of claim 1, wherein the reclosable device is a slider.

7. (Original) The stand-up bag of claim 1, wherein the reclosable device is an easy-snap mechanism.

8. (Currently amended) A reclosable bag comprising:

a pair of gusseted sides disposed between a front wall and a rear wall, wherein the gussets are located on a lower portion of the sides and no gussets exist at an upper portion;

a flat bottom portion adjacent a lower portion the front and rear walls and the sides, the bottom portion defining a base for the stand-up orientation of the bag and formed from a bottom seal where only a first and second layer are sealed in a central portion, and where outer portions of the seal are created to capture multiple layers thus creating the gussets;

a reclosable device located proximate a bag opening, such that no gussets are ~~required on an~~ interface with the reclosable device on the upper portion of the bag; and

wherein the bag is formed on a vertical form filling system.

9. (Currently amended) The reclosable bag of claim 8, ~~wherein the further comprising front wall, and rear wall and side wall~~ [[walls]] are formed from a continuous sheet of material

originally having have opposite longitudinal edges which are joined together by an elongate seal the elongate seal formed **[[made]]** at a contiguous portion ~~thereof~~ of the longitudinal edges thus creating a tube-like structure.

10. (Withdrawn) The method of forming a self-standing reclosable package comprising:

providing a supply web;

forming an opposed front wall and rear wall, wherein each wall has an upper and lower edge and longitudinal edges, such that the walls define a package opening at upper edges thereof;

forming a pair of gusseted sides between the front and rear walls, wherein the gussets are located on a lower portion of the sides;

forming a flat bottom portion adjacent a lower portion the front and rear walls and the sides, the bottom portion, front and rear walls, wherein the sides are configured such that the package conforms to a stand-up orientation, and wherein the front and rear walls, the side walls, and the bottom portion define an interior volume of the package;

attaching a reclosable device proximate the package opening, such that no gussets are required on the upper portion of the package; and

wherein a flexible package comprising a package body for enclosing a product is formed.

11. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 10, further comprising forming a base seal where the front and rear walls are interconnected together at contiguous portions, such that the gussets are formed on the sides when forming the base seal.

12. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 10, further comprising forming the bag using a vertical form filling system.

13. (Currently amended) A web manufactured self-standing package containing goods having a reclosable opening, the web manufactured package formed by:

providing a supply web;

~~providing a packaging mechanism for placing goods within the package formed from the supply web;~~

forming an opposed front wall and rear wall, wherein each wall has an upper and lower edge and longitudinal edges, such that the walls define a package opening at upper edges thereof;

forming a pair of gusseted sides between the front and rear walls, wherein the gussets are located on a lower portion of the sides;

forming a flat bottom portion adjacent a lower portion of the front and rear walls and the sides, the bottom portion, front and rear walls, wherein the sides are configured such that the package conforms to a stand-up orientation, and wherein the front and rear walls, the sides, and the bottom portion define an interior volume of the package, the flat bottom portion formed by creating a seal which creates the gussets, thus allowing the stand-up configuration;

attaching a reclosable device proximate the package opening, such that no gussets are required on the upper portion of the package;

filling the interior volume of the package with goods; and

wherein a flexible package comprising a package body enclosing goods is formed.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently amended) The manufactured self-standing package of claim 13, further comprising forming the package by:

forming **[[a]]** an elongate seal along the opposite longitudinal edges of the supply web, thus creating a tube-like structure which makes up the front **[[and]]** rear wall, rear wall and side wall **[[walls]]**, wherein the elongate seal is positioned **[[made]]** at a contiguous portion thereof and runs longitudinally along the rear wall; and

forming a seal along the bottom portion of the package, wherein portions of the front and rear walls are interconnected at contiguous portions to form the seal extending below the periphery of said bottom portion. **[[; and]]**

16. (Original) The manufactured self-standing package of claim 15, further comprising covering the opening of the package to enclose the goods.

17. (Currently amended) A stand-up plastic bag, comprising:

- (a) an opposed front wall and rear wall, each wall having an upper and lower edge and longitudinal edges, such that the walls define a bag opening at upper edges thereof;
- (b) a pair of gusseted sides disposed between the opposed front and rear walls and running along the longitudinal edges, wherein the gussets are located on a lower portion of the sides and on upper portion of the sides are substantially dimensionless, and wherein the sides include a continuous smooth transition between the gusseted lower portion and the dimensionless upper portion;
- (c) a flat bottom portion adjacent a lower portion the front and rear walls and the sides, the bottom portion, front and rear walls, and the sides configured such that the bag conforms to a stand-up bag orientation; and
- (d) the front and rear walls, the sides, and the bottom portion define an interior volume of the bag; and

18. (Original) The stand-up bag of claim 17, wherein said bottom portion having portions of the front and rear walls interconnected together at contiguous portions to form a seal extending below the periphery of said bottom portion.

19. (Withdrawn) The method of forming a self-standing reclosable package comprising:

providing a supply web;

forming an opposed front wall and rear wall, wherein each wall has an upper and lower edge and longitudinal edges, such that the walls define a package opening at upper edges thereof;

forming a pair of gusseted sides between the front and rear walls, wherein the gussets are located on a lower portion of the sides;

forming a flat bottom portion adjacent a lower portion the front and rear walls and the sides, the bottom portion, front and rear walls, wherein the sides are configured such that the package conforms to a stand-up orientation, and wherein the front and rear walls, the side walls, and the bottom portion define an interior volume of the package;

forming a base seal where the front and rear walls are interconnected together at contiguous portions, such that the gussets are formed on the sides when forming the base seal; and

wherein a flexible package comprising a package body for enclosing a product is formed.

20. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 19, further comprising forming the bag using a vertical form filling system.

21. (Currently amended) A stand-up plastic bag comprising:

- (a) an opposed front wall and rear wall, each wall having an upper and lower edge and longitudinal edges, such that the walls define a bag opening at upper edges thereof;
- (b) a pair of gusseted sides disposed between the opposed front and rear walls and running along the longitudinal edges, wherein the gussets are located on a lower portion of the sides the gusseted sides created as a result of a reversible seal at an upper portion of the bag which causes the juxtaposed arrangement of the front and rear wall, and a notched permanent seal at the bottom of the front and rear wells, which create the gusseted sides having a dimension at the lower portion thereof;
- (c) a flat bottom portion adjacent a lower portion the front and rear walls and the sides, the bottom portion, front and rear walls, and the sides configured such that the bag conforms to a stand-up bag orientation; and
- (d) the front and rear walls, the sides, and the bottom portion define an interior volume of the bag.

22. (Original) The stand-up bag of claim 21, wherein said front, rear and sides and said bottom portion are composed of a multi-layered film of thermoplastic material.

23. (Original) The stand-up bag of claim 21, wherein said bottom portion having portions of the front and rear walls interconnected together at contiguous portions to form a seal extending below the periphery of said bottom portion.

24. (Currently amended) The stand-up bag of claim 21, wherein said front, ~~[[and]]~~ rear and side walls ~~[[have]]~~ are formed from a continuous sheet of material originally having opposite longitudinal edges which are joined together by an elongate seal made at a contiguous portion thereof thus creating a tube-like structure which can be formed into the stand-up plastic bag.

25. (Withdrawn) A method of forming a self standing package comprising:

providing a supply web;

forming an opposed front wall and rear wall, wherein each wall has an upper and lower edge and longitudinal edges, such that the walls define a package opening at upper edges thereof;

forming a pair of gusseted sides between the front and rear walls, wherein the gussets are located on a lower portion of the sides;

forming a flat bottom portion adjacent a lower portion the front and rear walls and the sides, the bottom portion, front and rear walls, wherein the sides are configured such that the package conforms to a stand-up orientation, and wherein the front and rear walls, the side walls, and the bottom portion define an interior volume of the package; and

wherein a flexible package comprising a package body for enclosing a product is formed.

26. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 25, further comprising forming a base seal where the front and rear walls are interconnected together at contiguous portions, such that the gussets are formed on the sides when forming the base seal.

27. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 10, further comprising forming the bag using a vertical form filling system.

28. (New) A stand-up bag comprising:

- a continuous tube of flexible material having a top end and a bottom end;

- a reclosable seal member positioned at the top end of the tube, the reclosable seal squeezing two layers of the flexible material from the tube to be juxtaposed with one another, the reclosable seal member being situated transverse to a main axis of the tube; and

- a bottom seal having a central portion with only two layers of the flexible material and having side portions extending outwardly from each side of the central portion, wherein the side portions are made up of multiple layers of flexible material created by folding a portion of the tube at those side portions, the bottom seal creating gussets in the side of the bag at a location adjacent the bottom seal to create a stand-up configuration.